

Message Text

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51

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PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 RSR-01 /121 W

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R 221400Z AUG 73

FM USINT BAGHDAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 492

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

UNCLAS BAGHDAD 0443

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, IZ

SUBJECT: DETERIORATION OF GOI-KURDISH RELATIONS

REF: BAGHDAD 408

1. AMID WIDESPREAD, BUT UNVERIFIED REPORTS OF CLASHES IN NOTH BETWEEN ARMY AND KURDS, AT-TAXXHI PUBLISHED KURDISH DEMORCRATIC PARTY (KDP) STATEMENT ON AUGUST 19 REJECTING PARTICIPATION IN NATIONAL FRONT UNLESS GOI MEETS KDP CONDITIONS. EXCERPTS FOLLOW:

2. "FOLLOWING JULY 17 ACCORD BETWEEN BAATH AND ICP OUR PARTY WAS INVITED TO COMPLETE DISCUSSIONS LEADING TO NATIONAL FRONT. KDP HAS ALWAYS CONSIDERED ESTABLISHED NATIONAL FRONT ONE OF ITS PRIME OBJECTIVES. MARCH 1970 MANIFESTO WAS SOLID BASE ON WHICH TO BUILD NATIONAL FRON AND DURING MEETING BETWEEN OUR PARTY AND BAATH IT WAS AGREED THAT JOINT DRAFT NATIONAL ACTION CHARTER WOULD BE ISSUED. INSTEAD BAATH INDEPENDENTLY DRAFTED CHARTER AND PROCLAIMED IT ON NOVEMBER 15, 1971. DESPITE THIS, WE SUBMITTED OUR COMMENTS ON CHARTER ON JANUARY 12, 1972, BUT WE HAVE YET RECEIVED

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REPLY.

3 "WITH ALL DUE RESPECT TO IMPORTANCE OF BILATERAL ACCORD BETWEEN BAATH AND ICP, WE MUST MENTION THAT CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING ACCORD AND FACT THAT WE NOTIFIED OF IT ONLY SHORTLY BEFORE PUBLICATION INDICATE THAT CONCERNED PARTIES WISHED TO EMBARRASS KDP AND PUT PRESSURE ON IT.

4. "ONE IMPORTANT POINT IS THAT ARTICLE 2 OF ACCORD PROVIDES THAT CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF FRONT SHALL HAVE 16 MEMBERS; 8 FROM BAATH, 3 FROM KDP, 3 FROM ICP, AND 2 FROM NATIONALIST PARTIES. WE BELIEVE OUR PARTY WAS SLIGHTED SINCE IT NOT JUST POLITICAL PARTY BUT REPRESENTS SECOND NATIONALITY OF COUNTRY.

5. "WE DO NOT AGREE TO JOIN FRONT SO MARCH ACCORD CAN BE IMPLEMENTED, BUT BELIEVE THAT PRIOR AGREEMENT ON GENERAL PRINCIPLES IS NECESSARY. BASIC ELEMENT THAT ARE STILL PENDING AND WHICH SHOULD BE SERIOUSLY RECONSIDERED AND RESOLVED ARE: (A) "SETTING OF DATE FOR GENERAL CENSUS SO AREA OF AUTONOMY CAN BE DETERMINED. ARABISM POLICY OF AUTHORITIES IN PARTS OF KURDISTAN SUCH AS KIRKUK, KANAQUIN, MANDALI, AND SINJAR SHOULD STOP; (B) " OUR AUTONOMY PROPOSAL OF SEVERAL MONTHS AGO TO WHICH WE HAVE RECEIVED NO REPLY SHOULD BE APPROVED. (FOR TEXT OF PROPOSAL SEE BAGHDAD A-270F JULY 20.) (C) "POSITION OF BAATH ON OUR COMMENTS ON DRAFT NATIONAL ACTION CHARTER SUBMITTED ON JANUARY 12, 1972 SHOULD BE GIVEN. (D) " FREE ELECTIONS SHOULD BE HELD ONCE A YEAR AFTER OUR PARTY AGREES TO PARTICIPATE IN NATIONAL FRONT AND NOT AFTER TWO YEARS AS PREVIOUSLY RECOMMENDED.

6. "WE TRUST THESE POINTS WILL BE FAVORABLY CONSIDERED BY OUR FRIENDS IN BAATH AND ICP AND WE EXPRESS OUR COMPLETE READINESS TO CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS IN ORDER TO REACH AGREEMENT.." END EXCERPTS.

7. FURTHER SIGN OF DETERIORATION IS FOLLOWING STATEMENT FROM BAGHDAD BRANCH OF KDP PUBLISHED IN AT-TAAZHI ON AUGUST 21: "BAGHDAD BRANCH OF KDP ANNOUNCES THAT BECAUSE OF UNFORTUNATE INCIDENT WHICH TOOK PLACE EVENING OF AUGUST 20 WHEN FOUR KDP MEMBER WERE EXECUTED, CELEBRATIONS SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 23 TO CELEBRATE 27TH ANNIVERSARY OF KDP ARE UNCLASSIFIED

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CANCELLED. THOSE EXECUTED WERE CHARGED WITH OBSCURE CHARGES SEVERAL MONTHS AGO AND ALL EFFORTS OF PARTY LEADERS TO PERSUADE AUTHORITIES TO STUDY THEIR CASE FAILED. BAGHDAD BRANCH EXTENDS CONDOLENCES TO FAMILIES OF DECEASED."

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